

Genesee Country Express

Livingston County's Watchful Newspaper

Vol. 56 No. 11

Dansville, N.Y. 14437

Thursday, January 7, 1988

30 cents

List Appointments

Board Opens Book on 1988

At the first meeting of the new year Tuesday, John Reinholz took his place as a member of the North Dansville Town Board. Reinholz was elected to his position during the general election in November defeating incumbent Robert Conway. Timothy Wolfanger, appointed town clerk last July, was returned to his position after a successful elective run for office.

Reelected to their respective offices were Robert F. Hart, who has served as supervisor continuously since 1956, and James Kenna, veteran Town Board member.

During the board's organizational meeting, appointments for 1988 were made. They consist of:

Richard Fournier, highway superintendent; Carl Knopf, Larry Green, Richard Cox, Dennis Mahus and James McKinney, constables; Richard J. Applin, zoning enforcement officer; Carl Fuhrman, chairman of the Board of Assessors; Quentin Masolotte, town historian.

Fournier will also serve as custodian of voting machines and the Town Hall boiler. Jane Mark will

continue as deputy town clerk.

Named to the Town-Village Planning Board were John Brennessel and David Oldfield with Robbin Babcock and David Hall serving as alternate members. Holdovers are Fred Holmes, chairman; Din Derti, deputy chairman; John Bennett; Bernard Robson, and James Gross. Elizabeth Boyd will continue as the board's secretary.

Todd Moore was named a member of the Town-Village Zoning Board of Appeals, replacing Dr. Charles Calder, who resigned. Holdover members are Robert Warner, chairman; Frank Basta; William Crowell, Robert Dixon. Debra Goodell will continue as secretary and was named an alternate member.

Other appointments were Maine Midland Bank and Norstar Bank, official depositories; the Express, official newspaper; Dennis Mahus, town fire code and building inspector; Harry Sanney and Vernon Dillon, Town Highway employees; Howard Hartman, Robert Sahles and Janice King are members of the Board of Assessment Review.

Change Zoning Hearing Date

Request for postponement of a public hearing on a proposed construction project at Ames Plaza was granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals. The hearing was rescheduled for 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12.

Robert Warner, board chairman, said the request was made by an attorney representing Kenneth Burdman of MBM Investment, parent firm, of Ames Plaza on lower Franklin Street, who said that his client was unable to attend the session.

Burdman is seeking a zoning variance with no restrictions that would permit construction of a new building 70 feet by 120 feet by 16 feet for housing five stores

on the western edge of the plaza.

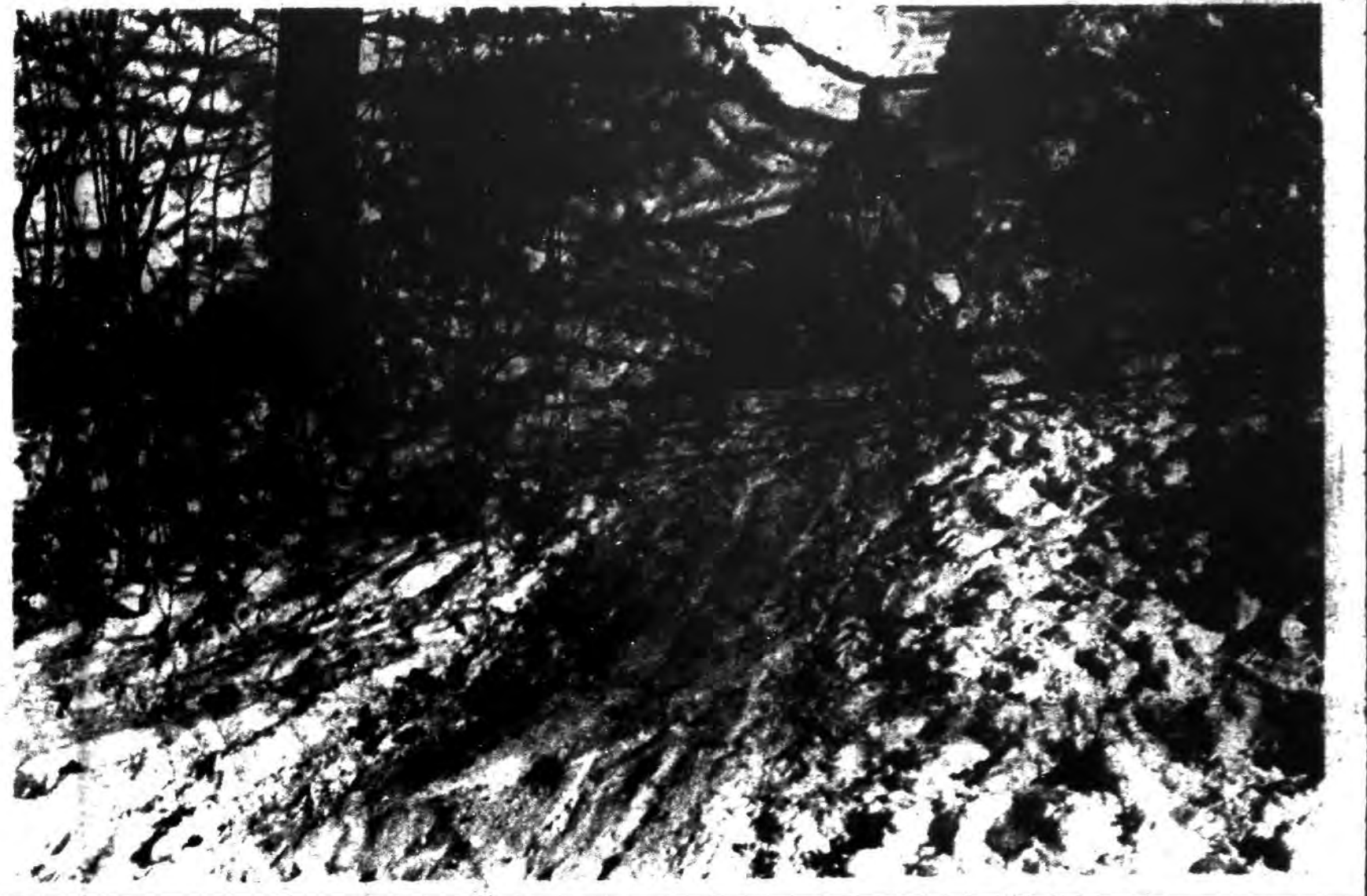
Proposed location of the building was approved early last year by the Village Planning Board with the stipulation that the firm gain approval from the Federal Aviation Administration because of the building's proposed location in relation to the Dansville Municipal Airport north-south runway.

Mayor Michael Keme noted that the FAA ruling denied permission for construction of the building because of its height and that it would be situated in the "clear zone" of the runway's approach

(Continued on Page 14)



WINTER'S FUN — With a fresh blanket of snow, a hill adjacent to Cottage Street proved for these youngsters to be a good place for snow tubing. One of the kids, upper left, Andrew Pender of Boca Raton, Fla., had his first experience with snow. He is shown attempting to negotiate the hill for another run. At right, Michelle Verhalen of Dansville, with feet up, hangs on as her tube descends the run. Lower photo, Kristy Higgins, in front, and Carly Fabian, both of Dansville, come down the hill together. The youngsters were on their Christmas vacation from school.



Probe Cause of Fire at Historic Site

Officials are continuing their investigation into the cause of a fire which destroyed a commercial complex at the Spruce and Ossian Streets intersection here Monday night. The buildings leveled by roaring flames date back to Dansville's era as a canal town in the mid-1800's.

Fire Chief Gerald Welch Jr. and Police Chief Marc Vernam, along with other Fire Department officials, spent most of Tuesday at the scene trying to determine what started the fire which broke through at 9 p.m. Monday. David Harter, Livingston County fire coordinator, and William Smith, deputy coordinator, are also assisting in the investigation.

Flames destroyed a major telephone line along Ossian Street and about 800 customers were without service. Several crews

from the Rochester Telephone Corp. worked throughout Tuesday attempting to restore service.

Dansville volunteers, assisted by men and equipment from Wayland, Sparta Center and Groveland, battled flames in near-zero temperature and swirling snow for nearly two hours before bringing the fire under control. No damage estimate was available but Welch said it would be considerable as everything in the structures was destroyed.

The landmark stone structure at Ossian and Spruce was destroyed with only the front wall remaining. This building housed Dudley's Tractor Service. Located in the adjacent structure were the Door and Glass Co., Wesco Pools Co., Al's Locksmith firm, The Ceramic Shop and the office of James Tobin, a representative of

the International Breeders' Association. The Airport Cycle company only recently moved into a section of that building. All inventory of all firms was destroyed as the building was leveled.

Shortly after the fire broke out, Dansville police evacuated several families from a nearby residential section as dense smoke and flaming debris threatened the homes. Firemen sprayed several homes as a precautionary measure. Residents were able to return later in the night and no damage to the houses was reported. Police also closed the Convenient Food Mart located across Ossian Street from the burning structures. More than 100 volunteers were involved in battling the fire. Many remained into the morning hours Tuesday.

Officials said the fire broke out

in the building housing the several companies and quickly spread to Dudley's Tractor Service structure.

The Hook and Ladder Co. truck of the Dansville department was stationed on the west side of the complex and was able to stop flames from spreading to close-by large wooden buildings north of the burning section. The ladder truck from the Wayland department fought flames in the Tractor Service building while a dozen other hose lines were brought in to combat the flames which shot more than 100 feet into the air.

Chamber Selects Officers

Directors of the Dansville Chamber of Commerce reorganized at their first meeting for 1988 Monday morning in the board room of Key Bank.

Elected president, succeeding Teresa Canuti, was Robert Matthews.

Other officers are Geraldine Traphagen, vice-president; Teresa Russell, secretary; and Diane Derrenbacher, treasurer.

Reelected to the Board of Directors for five-year terms were Tom Kelly, Mrs. Canuti and Mrs. Traphagen. New directors are Robert Waltman and Steve Rossi.

In another area, the board discussed plans for its dinner meeting on the economic future of the Dansville area. The program is planned for 7 p.m. Jan. 23 at Brac Burn Recreation. Tickets, at \$10 each, will be available this week at local banks and from directors.

The program will be the second session for civic and business people and the public. A panel discussion was conducted last month, and a third session is scheduled for next month. The program, with the Chamber, are sponsored jointly by the Dansville Business Association and the Dansville Economic Development Corp.



LITTLE WINNER — Kaliegh Alychia, with her parents, Gretchen and Christopher Townsend of Canaseraga, was Dansville area's First Citizen for 1988 following her birth at 4:24 a.m. New Year's Day at Noyes Memorial Hospital. She is the couple's first child.

Little Miss Reigns As First Citizen

Kaliegh Alychia Townsend made her entrance into the world at 4:24 a.m. Jan. 1, gaining the distinction of being the First Citizen of 1988 born at Noyes Memorial Hospital. She joined a list of 40 other infants to gain the honor.

Kaliegh is the first child of Gretchen and Christopher Townsend of 16 Mill St., Canaseraga. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 9 1/2 ounces and measured 21 inches in length.

The infant succeeds Nickie Sue LoVerde of Mt. Morris, daughter of Susan and Nicholas LoVerde

(Continued on Page 14)



INFERNO — Landmark buildings were destroyed by fire here Monday night and volunteers were forced to combat flames on the coldest night of the season only an hour after a snowstorm struck the community. Lost were the structures at Ossian and Spruce Streets which housed several commercial firms.